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# WEATHER & CROPS



Week of: April 3 - 9, 2006

Number: 5

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## CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 9, 2006

Dry conditions continued across the Commonwealth. Most areas received light to moderate rain that improved spring planting conditions, but farmers did not get the soaking rain they had hoped for. Days suitable for field work were 5.7. Average rainfall for the week was 0.98 inches, and the average temperature was 55 degrees. While pasture conditions have improved , the lack of rain has affected the growth of hay and small grains in the state. The dry days and warm temperatures have allowed corn planting to continue ahead of schedule. Land preparation for vegetable and soybean planting continued this week. The strawberry crop looks good and has not been affected by the frost. Tobacco greenhouse activity continues and tobacco transplants are looking good. Other farm activities included spreading lime, applying pesticides and nitrogen, seeding pastures, and preparing to plant cotton.

| TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT |            |       |          |         |
|--------------------------|------------|-------|----------|---------|
| Week Ending              | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
| April 2, 2006            | 52         | 35    | 13       | 0       |
| April 9, 2006            | 42         | 38    | 19       | 1       |

| CROP CONDITION PERCENT |           |      |      |      |           |
|------------------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|
| Crop                   | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
| Pastures               | 10        | 34   | 40   | 11   | 5         |
| Livestock              | 1         | 7    | 37   | 50   | 5         |
| Other Hay              | 6         | 31   | 46   | 16   | 1         |
| Alfalfa Hay            | 3         | 21   | 54   | 22   | 0         |
| Winter Wheat           | 2         | 11   | 37   | 48   | 2         |
| Barley                 | 1         | 8    | 45   | 41   | 5         |
| All Apples             | 0         | 0    | 36   | 64   | 0         |
| Peaches                | 0         | 10   | 53   | 37   | 0         |
| Grapes                 | 0         | 1    | 32   | 67   | 0         |

| CROP PROGRESS PERCENT - WITH COMPARISONS |           |           |           |                |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| Crop                                     | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | 5 Year Average |
| Corn Planted                             | 16        | 4         | 7         | 9              |
| Tobacco Greenhouse Seeded                | 99        | 94        | 100       | 99             |
| Tobacco Plantbeds Seeded                 | 95        | 95        | 98        | 99             |

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 9, 2006

| WEATHER STATION | TEMPERATURE (degrees Fahrenheit) |    |         |                       | PRECIPITATION (inches) |                       |      |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|----|---------|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|------|
|                 | HI                               | LO | Average | Departure From Normal | TOTAL                  | Departure From Normal | Days |
| NORTHERN        |                                  |    |         |                       |                        |                       |      |
| Woodstock       | 78                               | 29 | 51      | -1                    | 1.10                   | 0.51                  | 6    |
| Warrenton       | 79                               | 29 | 53      | 3                     | 0.95                   | 0.25                  | 5    |
| Winchester 7 SE | 75                               | 26 | 51      | 3                     | 1.26                   | 0.56                  | 7    |
| Dale Enterprise | 83                               | 28 | 50      | 1                     | 0.82                   | 0.26                  | 6    |
| WESTERN         |                                  |    |         |                       |                        |                       |      |
| Glasgow         | 88                               | 32 | 56      | 4                     | 0.87                   | 0.22                  | 4    |
| Roanoke AP      | 86                               | 37 | 59      | 7                     | 1.24                   | 0.53                  | 4    |
| Waynesboro      | 84                               | 31 | 52      | 4                     | 0.95                   | 0.32                  | 4    |
| Staunton AG     | 82                               | 31 | 53      | 5                     | 0.59                   | -0.04                 | 5    |
| CENTRAL         |                                  |    |         |                       |                        |                       |      |
| Charlottesville | 83                               | 31 | 56      | 3                     | 0.79                   | 0.08                  | 4    |
| Piedmont Res ST | 83                               | 34 | 55      | 4                     | 0.79                   | 0.09                  | 4    |
| Bremo Bluff     | 86                               | 29 | 56      | 5                     | 0.47                   | -0.23                 | 3    |
| Richmond AP     | 84                               | 36 | 59      | 5                     | 0.63                   | -0.07                 | 3    |
| EASTERN         |                                  |    |         |                       |                        |                       |      |
| Eastville       | 78                               | 39 | 57      | 4                     | 0.90                   | 0.23                  | 3    |
| Wallops Island  | 71                               | 37 | 55      | 3                     | 0.36                   | -0.24                 | 4    |
| Williamsburg    | 84                               | 38 | 57      | 3                     | 0.53                   | -0.18                 | 4    |
| Keysville       | 85                               | 34 | 59      | 7                     | 0.40                   | -0.34                 | 3    |
| SOUTHWESTERN    |                                  |    |         |                       |                        |                       |      |
| Blacksburg AG   | 79                               | 29 | 52      | 5                     | 1.45                   | 0.61                  | 5    |
| Wytheville      | 76                               | 28 | 49      | 3                     | 1.27                   | 0.61                  | 4    |
| Saltville       | 77                               | 31 | 52      | 3                     | 1.89                   | 1.09                  | 4    |
| Richlands       | 76                               | 30 | 50      | 7                     | 2.57                   | 1.75                  | 4    |
| SOUTHERN        |                                  |    |         |                       |                        |                       |      |
| Stuart          | 84                               | 36 | 58      | 7                     | 0.31                   | -0.66                 | 3    |
| Danville AG     | 87                               | 35 | 60      | 6                     | 0.93                   | 0.16                  | 3    |
| Chatham         | 85                               | 29 | 56      | 5                     | 0.70                   | -0.10                 | 3    |
| Martinsville    | 84                               | 29 | 56      | 5                     | 0.88                   | 0.04                  | 3    |
| SOUTHEASTERN    |                                  |    |         |                       |                        |                       |      |
| Norfolk VA      | 84                               | 38 | 60      | 6                     | 1.33                   | 0.63                  | 2    |
| Oceana          | 84                               | 36 | 60      | 7                     | 1.38                   | 0.73                  | 2    |
| Emporia         | 83                               | 35 | 58      | 5                     | 1.15                   | 0.45                  | 3    |
| Newport News    | 83                               | 35 | 60      | 6                     | 0.81                   | 0.11                  | 3    |

Departure from Normal based on 1961-90 Normals.  
Precipitation Days=Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more.